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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/828,331	04/21/2004	Osamu Okumura	038959.02	4236
25944	7590	10/18/2005	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			TON, MINH TOAN T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2871	

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AK

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/828,331

Applicant(s)

OKUMURA ET AL.

Examiner

Toan Ton

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 5 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 and 6-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 08/809,487.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-3 and 6-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohgawara et al (US 5365357).

Ohgawara discloses a liquid crystal display, comprising (see at least Figure 3: a first electrode; a second electrode opposing the first electrode; a plurality of dots (e.g., pixel regions) formed at overlapping portions of the first electrode and the second electrode; and a plurality of color filters (23,27), a color filter being arranged to correspond to each of the plurality of dots, individual dots of the plurality of dots including an area (e.g., displaying regions) having a color filter and an area (e.g., non-displaying regions) having no color filter, and each color filter being separated from adjacent color filters by an additional area having no color filter (e.g., regions between color filters).

Ohgawara discloses each color filter being located at a central portion of the dot (see at least Figure 3).

Ohgawara discloses each color filter being divided into a plurality of parts (see least Figure 3).

Ohgawara discloses that known LCD elements such as a reflecting plate are employed (see at least col. 10, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph). A reflective LCD device is common and known in the art for advantages such as no backlight is needed, wherein the reflecting plate is common arranged

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outside the electrode. Therefore, it would have been at least obvious to one ordinary skill in the art to employ a reflecting plate (commonly) arranged outside the electrode (achieving a reflective display device) for advantages such as no backlight is needed.

Ohgawara discloses the plurality of dots further comprising a first group of dots (e.g., displaying regions) and a second group of dots (regions between displaying regions); and a plurality of color filters, a color filter being arranged to correspond to each dot of the first group, none of the color filters being arranged to correspond to any dot of the second group (see at least Figure 3).

Ohgawara discloses a color filter being arranged to correspond to each of the plurality of dots, the color filter continuously extending beyond the area (e.g., non-displaying regions) of each of the plurality of dots (see at least Figure 3).

Ohgawara discloses individual dots of the plurality of dots being associated with different color filters which display different colors and the different color filters associated with individual dots not overlapping (see at least Figure 3).

Ohgawara discloses the different color filters associated with individual dots contacting one another in an area extending beyond an area (e.g., non-displaying regions) of a dot (see at least Figure 3).

Ohgawara discloses the different color filters associated with individual dots being arranged so as to be separated from one another (see at least Figure 3).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

3. Claims 4-5 are allowed.

The prior art of record does not anticipate nor render obvious to one ordinary skilled in the art a liquid crystal display device comprising a combination of various elements as claimed, more specifically, a plurality of color filters, a color filter being arranged to correspond to each of the plurality of dots, individual dots of the plurality of dots including an area having a color filter and an area having no color filter, each color filter being separated from adjacent color filters by an additional area having no color filter, and a substantially transparent layer being arranged to correspond to the area having no color filter.

Ohgawara discloses a liquid crystal display device comprising a plurality of color filters, a plurality of dots. However, Ohgawara fails to disclose a liquid crystal display device comprising a combination of various elements as claimed, more specifically, 'a plurality of color filters, a color filter being arranged to correspond to each of the plurality of dots, individual dots of the plurality of dots including an area having a color filter and an area having no color filter, each color filter being separated from adjacent color filters by an additional area having no color filter, and a substantially transparent layer being arranged to correspond to the area having no color filter'.

#### ***Contact Information***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Toan Ton whose telephone number is (571) 272-2303.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

October 15, 2005

TOANTON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER